



wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ each are the same or different and are hydrocarbons of between 8 and 18 carbon atoms, optionally containing one or more heterocyclic groups, or R¹ and R² and/or R³ and R⁴ together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded are joined together to form a heterocyclic group, optionally containing one or more heterocyclic groups, it being provided that diphenyl guanidine is substantially absent in the rubber composition.

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16. (Twice Amended) A method for increasing the Mooney Scorch value of a rubber composition which comprises the steps of forming a rubber composition comprising (a) a rubber component; (b) a silica filler; and, (c) at least one thiuram disulfide accelerator of the general formula

